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ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD FOR
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

DIVISION OF REHABILITATION



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BY

Chief Executive Officer

FRANCIS G. BLAIR

Superintendent of Public Instruction

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
Division of Rehabilitation

December 1, 1924.

To His Excellency, Len Small,
Governor, State of Illinois.

Dear Sir:

We herewith submit the annual report on the work accomplished by the Division of Civilian Rehabilitation for the year ending June 30, 1924.

Excellent progress has been made in the work during the past year and Illinois now ranks among the leading states in civilian rehabilitation. Especially is this true when the fact that we have entered into a more extensive training program than most of the other states is taken into consideration.

REPORT OF PRESENT STATUS OF THE WORK.

Live roll July 1, 1923	818	
Registered during the year.....	927	
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Total roll	1745	1745
Rehabilitated	319	
Closed for various other reasons.....	567	
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Total closures	886	886
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Live roll		859
In training	389	
Registered pending further disposition	427	
Received some service but pending further dispo- sition	43	
	<hr/>	
	859	

FINANCIAL STATEMENT—1924.

Receipts.

State:

Appropriation 1923-1925.....	\$125,000.00
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Federal:

Balance unexpended July 1, 1923.....\$	2.49
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Allotment payable to State during year ending June 30, 1924.....	\$61,601.88
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Total Federal allotment.....	61,604.37
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Total amount available.....	\$186,604.37
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Expenditures.

Administrative	\$34,265.96
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Tuition	54,280.52
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Instructional supplies	9,577.46
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Artificial appliances, medical examinations and other miscellaneous expenses....	23,353.03
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Total expenditures	\$121,476.97
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We succeeded during the last year in reducing the per capita cost of rehabilitation from \$1,038.00 to \$380.80, a difference of \$657.20 on each handicapped person rehabilitated. It is thought that under normal conditions the per capita cost can be reduced still more.

The following analysis of the work will convey some idea of the excellent economic results obtained:

319 persons rehabilitated and placed in remunerative employment—average age—33 years—average per capita cost	\$ 380.00
Average yearly earning before sustaining injury.....	726.00
Average yearly earning while in disabled condition.....	418.00
Average yearly earning after rehabilitation by Division....	1,292.00
Combined earnings of the 319 persons before injury.....	231,712.00
Combined earnings of the 319 persons after injury and before rehabilitation	133,435.00
Combined earnings of the 319 persons after rehabilitation..	412,127.00

The average earnings of the individuals were increased from \$418.00 per annum while in the handicapped condition to \$1,292.00 per annum after receiving the benefits of rehabilitation service, or an increase of \$874.00 per year.

The combined earnings of the 319 persons were \$133,435.00 per year while in their handicapped condition, while after rehabilitation they were increased to \$412,127.00, a gain of \$278,692.00. The total cost was \$121,476.97, therefore the net gain was \$157,215.03.

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The work has grown with such rapidity in recent months that we have practically reached our maximum capacity with the present staff and appropriation. In April 1924, it became apparent that there would not be sufficient funds with which to carry out rehabilitation programs for all who applied, and it was necessary for us to discontinue placing persons in training as there were already in force enough contracts to consume all of the available money. This condition, however, did not materially lessen the work of the field agents as the number of cases in training at that time (about 500) required much supervision and guidance. It was also imperative that employment be secured whenever training was completed. In the meantime all applications have been accepted and such cases as could be handled without training have received the services required, and the other applications placed on file to await the time when they may be taken up.

It is apparent that in order to keep pace with the requirements and provide the necessary rehabilitation service to the eligible applicants, the Division will need an appropriation of \$100,000.00 per annum. This estimate is based upon the number of applications of eligible persons received during the past year, and also anticipates some reduction in the per capita cost, but it does not anticipate an increase in the number of applications, although an increase may be expected each year.

The work has increased to such an extent that provision should be made for an assistant supervisor who could also act in the capacity of field agent. It is also necessary to provide for a record and filing clerk in order to keep the records as required by both the State and Federal Boards.

The following staff is recommended:

- 1 Supervisor
- 1 Assistant Supervisor
- 5 Field Agents
- 1 Liaison Clerk
- 2 Stenographers
- 1 Filing Clerk

The State appropriation should not be made contingent upon the Federal allotment, but should be made to the Board for Vocational Education for the purpose of carrying out the State Rehabilitation program and provide that whatever portion of it that is necessary may be used for a matching fund for whatever sum may be received from the Federal Government.

F. G. BLAIR,
Executive Officer.

H. D. BATTLES,
State Supervisor.



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